

November 1, 2012

The Honorable Richard J. Leon
United States District Judge
United States District Court for the District of Columbia
E. Barrett Prettyman Court House
333 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Judge Leon:

I write this letter to humbly ask for the leniency of this Court in making its sentencing decision. I am before this Court because of my wrongful actions committed seven years ago for which I am taking full responsibility today. I am truly sorry for committing those violations of the law.

My public humiliation, the pain that I have caused to my family, friends and supporters, the embarrassment that I have caused to the city that I love are all the consequences of my actions. I did not intend those consequences, but they are the product of my actions nonetheless. It is difficult to find words to describe how badly I feel about bringing so much pain to so many people. I never imagined that I would be in such a situation.

When law enforcement officials confronted me with the evidence of my wrongdoing that they had discovered, I immediately admitted that wrongdoing. I immediately realized that what I had done was wrong, and that my only course was to own up to it and to try to make amends for it. It was hard to do because much of what was to happen flashed across my mind, but it was absolutely the right thing to do.

I have consistently encouraged my children, my nieces and nephews, and other young people to be honest, and to be people of integrity. My conduct has made it difficult for me to continue to deliver that message. I want to regain my ability to be a role model, and I believe that one of the first steps on that path is to admit when you have made a mistake and to accept full responsibility for that mistake. As personally painful as my admission of wrongdoing has been, it may be a lesson to others that none of us is above the rules. It may also be instructive that no matter how far one strays from the right path, one can and should strive to get back on that path.

I am a man of humble beginnings. God blessed me with the opportunity to be the first elected at large member of the Council in the city's history to live east of the Anacostia River. Being elected as Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia was not only a great personal success, it provided me a platform to continue encouraging the young people of our city to follow their dreams. I was a personal example of how a DC public school graduate could through hard work and determination achieve success. An essential part of achieving that

Hon. R. J. Leon
November 1, 2012
Page 2

success, however, is personal integrity. When I provided false information on my loan applications, I failed badly to meet the standard of personal integrity that I expect of others or myself. I feel just awful about the image that I have created for myself. I am determined to regain a significant measure of the personal integrity that I have thrown away.

While it is in no way an excuse for my wrongdoing, the lies and false information that I provided on my loan applications did not result and will not result in any loss to the bank. I have repaid the mortgage loan before this matter arose), and I am continuing to repay the boat loan. I never intended that the bank would not be repaid its loans, but I certainly intended for the bank to make loans to me to which otherwise I would not be entitled. That was wrong, and I have already paid a heavy price. Resignation from elective office, the public humiliation, being found guilty of a felony are indeed significant sanctions that I have already suffered. I have learned an invaluable lesson about judgment, and consequences. This Court can be sure that I will not stray from the path again. I will continue to make amends for my mistake. I will continue to contribute positively to the life of the District. I am truly remorseful.

I ask this Court to judge me for the complete person that I am rather than simply by the serious mistake that I have made in this matter. Thank you.

Yours truly,

/s/ Kwame R. Brown
Kwame R. Brown